

apparatus, wherein the apparatus has a control panel for specifying a processing operation and a reader for reading an image of a document, and which is operated in accordance with an indication from the control panel and/or an externally supplied command. The method includes the steps of detecting that the document has been set to the reader, displaying, on the external device, a virtual control panel in response to the detection, and generating a command of the remotely controllable apparatus corresponding to an operation of the virtual control panel. The generated command is supplied to the remotely controllable apparatus.

Claim 13 relates to a storage medium storing program and corresponds generally to claim 3. Claim 13 includes, therefore, a program code for detecting that the document has been set to the reader.

Applicant's invention as set forth in claim 4 relates to a remote control system comprised of a remotely controllable apparatus which has a control panel for specifying a processing operation and a reader for reading an image of a document, and which is operated in accordance with an indication from the control panel and/or an externally supplied command, an information processing apparatus capable of supplying a command to the remotely controllable apparatus, and a display unit and input device connected to the information processing apparatus. The information processing apparatus includes detecting means for detecting that the document has been set to the reader, display means for displaying a virtual control panel in response to the detection, and discriminating means for establishing correspondence between a command, which operation of the control panel causes to be applied to the remotely controllable apparatus, and an operation performed on the virtual control panel. Additionally, communication means supplies the remotely controllable apparatus with the command corresponding to the operation performed on the virtual control panel.

Claim 17 relates to an information processing apparatus in a data processing system, and is comprised of detecting means for detecting that a document has been set to a reader for reading an image of a document, display means for displaying, on a display unit, a virtual control panel having an appearance identical with or similar to at least part of the control panel in response to the detection of the detecting means, and discriminating means for establishing correspondence between a command, which operation of the control panel causes to be applied to the data processing apparatus, and an operation performed on the virtual control panel. In addition, communication means supplies the data processing apparatus with the command corresponding to the operation performed on the virtual control panel.

Claims 20 and 23 recite a method of controlling an information processing apparatus in a data processing system and a storage medium storing program code of a method of controlling an information processing apparatus in a data processing system, respectively, and correspond generally to claim 17. These claims, therefore, include the steps of (or program code for) detecting that a document has been set to the reader, and displaying a virtual control panel in response to the detection.

In accordance with Applicant's claimed invention, setting a document to a reader is detected, and a virtual control panel is displayed in response to this detection. In this manner, an apparatus can be remotely controlled in an easy and efficient manner.

As discussed in the previous Amendment of July 2, 2002, Webb et al. relates to a host computer in communication with one or more printers. With reference to Figure 1, the host computer 11 and printer 16 are connected, with an operator panel 35 provided on the printer and a replica of the panel provided at the host 11 at dialogue box 63. As acknowledged in the Office Action, Webb et al. fails to disclose an image reader having a sensor for detecting a document.

The secondary citation to Ouchi was cited to compensate for this deficiency in Webb et al. Ouchi relates to an image input/output system including a personal computer and a multifunction peripheral apparatus. As shown in Figure 1, the multifunction peripheral apparatus includes a detector for detecting various errors in a scanner device 5 and a printer device 6.

In contrast to Applicant's claimed invention, however, Ouchi does not teach or suggest, among other features, detecting that a document is set in a reader. The detector device in Ouchi is disclosed as detecting a document jam in the scanner device 5, a print sheet jam in the printer device 6, a shortage of print ink, and other operational errors (*see* column 8, lines 20-24).

Accordingly, even assuming, *arguendo*, Webb et al. and Ouchi could have been combined in the manner proposed in the Office Action, such a combination still fails to teach or suggest, among other features, detecting that a document has been set to a reader and, it follows, displaying a virtual control panel based on this detection. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103 is respectfully requested.

Thus, it is submitted that Applicant's invention as set forth in independent claims 3, 4, 13, 17, 20 and 23 is patentable over the cited art. In addition, dependent claims 5-12, 15, 16, 18, 19, 21 and 22 set forth additional features of Applicant's invention. Independent consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

Furthermore, new claims 24 and 25 are also submitted to be patentable over the cited art.

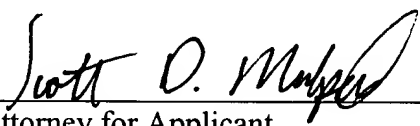
Claim 24 relates to a control method of an information processing terminal connected to an image reading device, and includes the steps of receiving a signal indicating that a document has been set to the image reading device, and displaying a control panel for controlling the image reading device in response to receiving the signal. In addition, a command for

instructing the image reading device is transmitted based on manipulation of the display control panel.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of this application is deemed to be in order and such action is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO CLAIMS

4. (Amended) A remote control system comprising:

a remotely controllable apparatus which has a control panel for specifying a processing operation and a reader [fo] for reading an image of a document, and which is operated in accordance with an indication from said control panel and/or an externally supplied command;

an information processing apparatus capable of supplying a command to said remotely controllable apparatus; and

a display unit and input device connected to said information processing apparatus;

wherein said information processing apparatus includes:

detecting means for detecting that the document has been set to said reader;

display means for displaying, on said display unit, a virtual control panel having an appearance identical with or similar to at least part of the control panel in response to the detection by said detecting means;

discriminating means for establishing correspondence between a command, which operation of the control panel causes to be applied to said remotely controllable apparatus, and an operation performed on said virtual control panel; and

communication means for supplying said remotely controllable apparatus with the command corresponding to the operation performed on said virtual control panel.